

**CITY OF MISHAWAKA  
HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION  
September 4, 2018**

A regular meeting of the Mishawaka Historic Preservation Commission was held Tuesday ,September 4, 2018 in Room 205, City Hall, 600 E Third St., Mishawaka, IN 46544.

**Chairman Doug Merritt called the meeting to order at 4:00 pm.**

Commission members present: Mike Bultinck, Terry DeMaegd, David Eisen, Jennifer Johns, Doug Merritt, Nancy Seidler, and Kate Voelker.

Advisory members present: Alan Grzeskowiak, Shirley McAlister, and Cliff Zenor.

Staff: Christa Hill and Ken Prince. Public: Dave Straughn.

Upon a Motion by Kate Voelker, seconded by Mike Bultinck, the meeting minutes of June 5, 2018 were approved.

**SPECIAL PRESENTATION**

A couple of years ago, the master plan of Battell Park was given a Certificate of Appropriateness. Since then, there have been several changes. The reason Mr. Prince has brought it to HPC right now, is the Mayor would like the Veteran's Plaza constructed by Memorial Day. He is just information. Back for COA.

A recap of changes:

1. Intern planned playground behind bandshell. Better connected and moved out of eyesight of bandshell.
2. Reduction from 3 to 2 tennis courts.
3. Gazebo removed. Location moved near tennis courts and replaced with a wedding garden.
4. Plantings instead of grass along rock wall. Hard to mow.
5. Primary change to Veteran's Walk is the relocation of the statue to the terminus of Liberty Avenue. The base is beyond repair. Moving it approximately 100' to the west.
6. Addition of Plaza as a gathering spot, especially on Memorial Day. Flags representing each branch of military service.
7. Along the Veteran's Walk will be Plexiglas plaques with a summary of each conflict and Mishawaka's involvement.

The plaza and restoration of the statue would cost, rough estimate, \$1 million.

Kate Voelker asked a question about maintaining, plowing and lighted, in the winter. Ken said it would be plowed as a path. Would replace lights if they went out.

Cliff Zenor asked if the statue would remain oriented the same. Ken answered the research and conversation with Pete DeKever, indicated that is the way it is supposed to face, which means you are looking at the back of the statue from the Veteran's Walk.

Mike Bultinck asked if the statue would be lighted. Ken said there will be lighting, but they didn't want to compete with the lighting for the flags.

Terry DeMaegd asked if there would be a cover over the wedding garden. Ken answered there will be an arbor, but not a building. Terry also recommended the Coast Guard flag, as a former member of the Coast Guard.

Ken is just asking for recommendation about the moving of the statue. Kate asked why not move the statue to the other end of the walk. Ken: we like the focal point. At the other end, there will be a listing of names of those killed in action.

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**Recognition of Historic of Signs**

Doug Merritt has not received any response from Arby's Corporate. Another idea was the Bonnie Doon on Lincolnway West because it is local. Kate Voelker asked what if it wasn't a Bonnie Doon anymore? Doug said we would not to be notified as a City, as a Commission if there were to be demolition. Before we approach property/business owners the Commission needs to have more conversation about how we want to recognize these signs and the impact it would have after the business goes away?

**Edgewater Drive Historic District Informational Meetings**

The next two meetings are September 12 at 6:30 at Ilene Crutchfield's house. There will be cookies. We will be back at City Hall on September 26 at 6:30. The Committee surveyed the neighborhood and could only find two people against it. They planned a Block Party October 7. At that meeting they want to have a drawing of a house for people to pick their top three priorities. From the previous meeting, what does "landscaping" mean. Narrow it down. Ilene reached out to Doug about restoring the park area. Ask Todd when a COA is required. How often could they change the ordinance.

**Education Opportunities**

This topic is on hold until Hannah Lindahl Children's Museum makes an official decision.

**Street Topper Design**

This was brought up at the Edgewater meeting. Christa Hill had to explain it was a City wide program and we weren't far enough along in the process to make promises as to what color or how many. Kate Voelker keep in mind the overall City sign package. Doug Merritt pointed out we still need the Mayor to sign off on the project. Approximately \$10 per sign materials. Will be printed by City's sign shop. 6-8 Edgewater, 1-2 Riviera Place. How many in Normain Heights.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Mishawaka Heritage Festival Recap**

Alan Grzeskowiak commented the attendance was light. Not a lot of interested in the Historical Marker Program. Kate Voelker asked why people attend the Heritage Festival. Our booth was located near Pete DeKever/Mishawaka Historical Museum and Ed Chamberlin's video booth. There were inflatables which are attractive to families with children. Alan handed out cups to anyone who came by the booth and passed some to the other vendors. We still have plenty cups left. Dave Eisen shared his experience working at the Hannah Lindahl booth. Christa Hill asked if we wanted to continue attending? The holiday weekend was discussed at a deterrent.

**Steele Stadium**

Mike Bultinck doing work for High School . Met with Christa Hill and Todd Zeiger at the site. One suggestion was to create a Friends of Steele Stadium 501C3, under Mishawaka Education Foundation. Nominated under WPA work. Restore brick underneath paint. Todd is willing to speak directly to the school board.

**PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR**

Kate Voelker mentioned how a benefit of being on the Commission was that several members of HPC got to participate in the Carter Build.

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**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 5:10.



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Doug Merritt, Chairman



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Christa Hill, Secretary